### Judges

## Chapter 5

1Well, on that day, DeborAh and BarAk (son of AbiNeEm) sang this song:  
  
 2‘IsraEl was shown what to do,  
 And the people were made willing… Praise Jah!  
  
 3‘Hear, O you kings and listen you rulers;  
 For, this is what I’ll sing…  
 It’s the song that I’ll sing to Jehovah…  
 A psalm to IsraEl’s Lord and their God.  
  
 4‘O Jehovah,  
  
 ‘You went up to ‘You went up to <span class="placename">SeIr ‘You went up to <span class="placename">SeIr</span>…  
 With You, we approached Edom’s land.  
 Then the ground started shaking and the skies dripped with dew,  
 And from clouds up above, poured the rain.  
  
 5‘The ground shook before the face of Jehovah…  
 <span class="placename">SinAi <span class="placename">SinAi</span> [trembled] before the face of the Lord  
 6In the days of SamEgar, son of Anath,  
 And in the days of JaEl.  
  
 ‘For, [IsraEl] had strayed from their way  
 And followed in paths that were crooked.  
 7In IsraEl, there were no more mighty men;  
 They’d failed until DeborAh arose…  
 A mother within IsraEl.  
  
 8‘For, because they had chosen new gods;  
 When their cities and rulers went out to fight,  
 There wasn’t a spear or a shield to be seen  
 Among the 40,000 of IsraEl.  
  
 9‘But, my heart had so yearned  
 For IsraEl to see order again  
 Among those who still praised Jehovah…  
 10To have someone mount a burro at noon,  
 And go sit on the seat of judgment once more,  
 For the sake of those who travel the roads…  
 Someone to sit and judge on the way.  
  
 11‘Now, you should proclaim that you’ve been saved  
 From those who once brought disturbance to us.  
  
 ‘O Lord,  
  
 ‘May those who go out to draw water,  
 Speak of the righteous things that You’ve done.  
 May Your righteous deeds in IsraEl grow,  
 And may Jehovah’s people return to their towns.  
  
 12‘Awaken… Yes, wake up, O DeborAh!  
 Awaken and sing us a song.  
 Arise O BarAk… Lead your captives away!  
 O son of AbiNeEm; lead them away.  
  
 13‘A small group of [God’s] mighty went with him…  
 These mighty ones came from among us.  
 14Ephraim used them to pry Amalec’s roots,  
 As BenJamin and others traveled behind.  
  
 ‘The sons of MachIr also arrived,  
 To search for the rest of our foes.  
 And from ZebuLon also came those  
 Who recorded it all with the pens of their scribes.  
  
 15‘With DeborAh and BarAk, came IsSachar’s leaders.  
 Then, to the valleys of ReuBen,  
 BarAk made him run for his life.  
  
 ‘With fluttering hearts, 16they then sat between pens,  
 Where they heard the bleating of Ruben’s flocks,  
 As each man searched through the things in his heart.  
  
 17‘Yet, the GileAdites stayed in their tents  
 On the other side of the JorDan,  
 And the [men of] Dan remained in their ships.  
  
 ‘Those of Asher just sat by the shore,  
 And they stayed in their tents at the ports,  
 18While ZebuLon’s men [laid] their lives [on the line],  
 And NaphTali marched ‘cross the hills of their land.  
  
 19‘Then the kings of CanaAn formed to wage war,  
 And fought ThanaAch at MegidDo’s waters.  
 20Yes, the stars in the heavens formed for war,  
 As they traveled to beat SiSara.  
  
 21‘So, the Kison Wadi then swept them away…  
 The ancient brook Kison (my mighty soul),  
 [Is what] really trampled them down.  
 22For in it, the hoofs of their horses got mired,  
 So those mighty men had to flee.  
  
 23‘May you be cursed, O Meroz;  
 For God’s angel then cursed all who lived there,  
 Since they didn’t [fight] for Jehovah,  
 And they failed to give aid to His mighty.  
  
 24‘Bless JaEl, the woman of Heber the Kenite…  
 May she be praised above female tent-dwellers.  
 25For he asked for water and she gave him milk…  
 In a bowl, she brought butter for a leader.  
  
 26‘Then, she leaned with a nail in her left hand,  
 And hit it with the hammer in her right.  
 She cut SiSara down with a nail through his head…  
 She pinned him with a nail through his temples.  
  
 27‘Beneath her feet, he fell and he rolled.  
 But after that, he just lay there…  
 He bowed and fell where he bowed, lying dead.  
  
 28‘SiSera’s mother then looked through her window…  
 She looked out of her peephole and asked:  
  
 ‘Why has his chariot been shamed…  
 Why did the wheels of his chariots stop?’  
  
 29‘But, thus replied her wise ladies:  
  
 ‘You answered yourself when you said,  
  
 30‘They’ll find him dividing the loot…  
 He’s dividing dyed clothes with his men…  
 For SiSara, are the spoils of many dyed clothes…  
 Embroidered dyed clothes are the spoils for his neck.’  
  
 31‘O Jehovah,  
  
 ‘May Your enemies all perish this way,  
 And may those who love You become just as strong  
 As the journeys of the sun as it’s [crossing the skies].’  
  
  
32Well after that, the land rested [for the next] 40 years.